

House File 2006 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2006

BY BALTIMORE

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the membership of county and city conference
2 boards.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 39.21, Code 2011, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 5. Public members of a conference board as
4 provided in section 441.2.

5 Sec. 2. Section 49.41, subsection 4, Code 2011, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 4. For purposes of township office and city and county
8 conference board public membership, "nomination papers" as used
9 in this section means the affidavit of candidacy required in
10 section 45.3.

11 Sec. 3. Section 441.2, Code 2011, is amended to read as
12 follows:

13 **441.2 Conference board.**

14 1. In each county and each city having an assessor there
15 shall be established a conference board.

16 a. In counties the conference board shall consist of
17 the mayors of all incorporated cities in the county whose
18 property is assessed by the county assessor, one representative
19 from the board of directors of each high school district of
20 the county, who is a resident of the county, said board of
21 directors appointing said representative for a one-year term
22 and notifying the clerk of the conference board as to their
23 representative, and members of the board of supervisors, and
24 four public members. The four public members shall be elected
25 by the voters of the county within the assessing jurisdiction,
26 at the general election in the manner provided in paragraph
27 "c". Each public member seat on the conference board shall
28 only be held by an individual who owns or holds an interest
29 in taxable property located in the assessing jurisdiction of
30 the county that is classified as residential, agricultural,
31 commercial, or industrial property. Each of the four property
32 classifications shall be assigned to one of the four public
33 member seats and designated as such on the ballot unless one
34 or more of the property classifications is not present within
35 the assessing jurisdiction. If a property classification is

1 not present within the assessing jurisdiction, that public
2 member seat shall not be assigned a classification, shall not
3 be designated on the ballot as being limited to a property
4 classification, and may be occupied by an individual owning
5 or having an interest in any property classification that is
6 present within the assessing jurisdiction.

7 b. In cities having an assessor the conference board shall
8 consist of the members of the city council, school board, and
9 county board of supervisors, and four public members. The four
10 public members shall be elected by the voters of the city at
11 the regular city election in the manner provided in paragraph
12 "c". Each public member seat on the conference board shall
13 only be held by an individual who owns or holds an interest
14 in taxable property located in the city that is classified as
15 residential, agricultural, commercial, or industrial property.
16 Each of the four property classifications shall be assigned to
17 one of the four public member seats and designated as such on
18 the ballot unless one or more of the property classifications
19 is not present within the city. If a property classification
20 is not present within the city, that public member seat shall
21 not be assigned a classification, shall not be designated on
22 the ballot as being limited to a property classification, and
23 may be occupied by an individual owning or having an interest
24 in any property classification that is present within the city.

25 c. The election of the four public members of a conference
26 board shall take place at the election specified in paragraphs
27 "a" and "b" on ballots which shall not reflect a nominee's
28 political affiliation. A person seeking election as a public
29 member of a conference board shall file an affidavit of
30 candidacy with the county commissioner of elections pursuant to
31 section 45.3. A plurality is sufficient to elect the public
32 members of a conference board. The four public members shall
33 each be elected for a four-year term and may be reelected for
34 additional four-year terms. A vacancy among the public member
35 seats prior to the expiration of a term shall be filled by

1 appointment by the remaining public members of the conference
2 board. The appointment shall be for the period until the next
3 pending election as defined in section 69.12, and shall be made
4 within forty days after the vacancy occurs.

5 2. In the counties the chairperson of the board of
6 supervisors shall act as chairperson of the conference board,
7 and in cities having an assessor the mayor of the city council
8 shall act as chairperson of the conference board.

9 3. In any action taken by the conference board, the mayors
10 of all incorporated cities in the county whose property is
11 assessed by the county assessor shall constitute one voting
12 unit, the members of the city board of education or one
13 representative from the board of directors of each high school
14 district of the county shall constitute one voting unit, the
15 members of the city council shall constitute one voting unit,
16 ~~and~~ the county board of supervisors shall constitute one voting
17 unit, and the four public members shall each constitute a
18 separate voting unit, each unit having a single vote and no
19 action shall be valid except by the vote of not less than two
20 four out of the ~~three~~ seven units. The majority vote of the
21 members present of each unit shall determine the vote of the
22 unit.

23 4. The assessor shall be clerk of the conference board.

24 Sec. 4. Section 441.3, Code 2011, is amended to read as
25 follows:

26 **441.3 Examining board.**

27 At a regular meeting of the conference board each voting
28 unit of the conference board shall appoint one person who is
29 a resident of the assessor jurisdiction to serve as a member
30 of an examining board to hold an examination for the positions
31 of assessor or deputy assessor. This examining board shall
32 organize as soon as possible after its appointment with a
33 chairperson and secretary. All its necessary expenditures
34 shall be paid as provided. Members of the board shall serve
35 without compensation. The terms of each member shall be for

1 six years, except for the public member appointees whose terms
2 shall be for four years.

3 EXPLANATION

4 This bill increases the membership of county and city
5 conference boards by requiring the addition of four elected
6 public members. The four public members are elected on a
7 nonpartisan basis by the applicable voters of the county
8 or city at the general election or regular city election,
9 as applicable. The bill provides that a person seeking
10 election as a public member of a conference board must only
11 file an affidavit of candidacy. Each public member seat on
12 the conference board may only be held by an individual who
13 owns or holds an interest in taxable property located in the
14 appropriate jurisdiction that is classified as residential,
15 agricultural, commercial, or industrial property. Each of
16 the four property classifications is assigned to one of the
17 four public member seats and designated as such on the ballot.
18 The bill provides that a public member seat is not limited by
19 property classification if that property classification is not
20 present within the jurisdiction. The four public members each
21 serve a four-year term and may be reelected for additional
22 four-year terms. The four public members each constitute a
23 separate voting unit. A vacancy among the public member seats
24 prior to the expiration of a term is filled by appointment by
25 the remaining public members of the conference board. Such an
26 appointment is for the period until the next pending election.
27 By operation of current Code section 441.3, the addition
28 of the four public members to the conference board results in
29 an additional four appointments to the examining board of the
30 applicable assessing jurisdiction. Current Code section 441.3
31 specifies that examining board members serve for six years.
32 However, the bill provides that each person appointed to the
33 examining board by a public member serves a four-year term,
34 which is the same as the length of a public member's term on the
35 conference board.